UNITED STATES KARATE ALLIANCE

BUSHIDO BULLETIN

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Directors: James H. Hawkes & Dr. David Jordan

TWO DUAL GRAND CHAMPIONSHIPS AWARDED AT THE 2004 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Chris Otwell and **Holly Cline** each earned double honors at this year's World Championships. Sixteen year-old Chris Otwell won both the Junior Advanced Kata Grand Champion Award and the Junior Weapons Grand Champion Award. He also took 1st Place in his kumite division. Holly Cline took home honors for both the Adult Kyu Grand Champion and Adult Kyu Weapons Grand Champion. She also placed 3rd in her kumite division.

Chris Otwell

Holly Cline w/ The Directors

Chris Otwell is no stranger to the national tournament circuit. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States with his grandfather, **John Shaver**, and has been seen anywhere from Louisiana to California and Indiana to New Mexico. Many of us were fortunate enough to get to know his grandfather during these travels and mourn his recent loss. He will be sorely missed. This year's World Championships were dedicated in John Shaver's honor; loving grandfather, father, husband, and dedicated martial arts supporter. Mr. Shaver was so closely involved in the arts through his

grandson, that he was a true Karate-Ka deep in his heart.

Chris Otwell trains with **Dr. David Jordan** and **Buster Cotten** in Ruston, Louisiana, and also won double honors at the 2004 USKA National Championships last March in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Incredible.

Adrian Galvan

Holly Cline is a student of **Bill Bowling's** in Muncie, Indiana. She was a brown belt at the World Championships, but since then has passed her black belt test earning her 1st Degree Black Belt in Goju Ryu. Ms. Cline also trains in boxing and grappling as her time allows. This busy 21 year old attends Ball State University holding a 4.0 grade average, and is studying to become a physical trainer.

Team Alliance

At age 19, **Adrian Galvan** became the youngest man to win the title of Black Belt Men's Kumite World Grand Champion. (**Teresa Davies** of Albuquerque, New Mexico holds the record for the women's division, also at 19.) Mr. Galvan's accomplishment was no easy task. He first had to earn 1st place in his own light heavyweight division, and then defeat the defending World Grand Champion and USKA Hall of Fame President, **Eddie Bethea**. The mental challenge was as great as the physical. After defeating Mr. Bethea 3-2, he faced the 1st place winners from the two other Adult Black Belt divisions. "To win the World Grand Championship Title, and be the youngest to do it was an unreal feeling," stated Mr. Galvan. He further remarked, "I was hungry to make a name for myself, and now I'm starving to keep it." The crowd erupted when Mr. Galvan and "Team Alliance" partners **Daniel Jordan** and **Josh Quayhagen**, took the World Champion title in Team Black Belt Sparring. Mr. Galvan also placed 2nd in his kata division.

The Black Belt Kata Grand Championship honors went to **Daniel Jordan**, a Pre-Med student from Des Moines, Iowa. In order to earn the Grand Championship award, Mr. Jordan not only had to place 1st in his kata division, but also had to earn the opportunity to be in the kata run-off at the Finals. In the Finals, he was scored not only on his kata, but on his interpretation of

Daniel Jordan w/Glenn Keeney & Bunkai Team

the bunkai (application) using four opponents. He and his bunkai team did an outstanding performance. Mr. Jordan also placed 2nd in his kumite division. He was brought up in karate, training under the instruction of his father, Dr. David Jordan, co-director of the USKA.

Daniel Jordan was greatly honored at this year's World Championship Award Ceremony, as he was inducted into the Alliance Hall of Fame, along with **Steve Flores** of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Chris Springer w/ The Directors

Also at the Award Ceremony, **Chris Springer**, of Ruston, Louisiana, was awarded the Trias Memorial Award.

The All-American Awards were also given out at the Award Ceremony. These awards are given to competitors who have placed 1st in the National Point Rankings in one or more division. This year's Awards went out to:

All- American Award

Angelica Drexel

Junior All-American Award

Triple Division Winners

Chris Otwell
Ray Porter
Tori Summey

Double Division Winners

Amanda Alcock
Benjamin Ashcraft
David Carlock
Erik Engleke
Brittany Hesbrook
Xavier Lopez
Dallis Meiering
Davis Meiering
Joshua Mitchell
Will Porter

cont.

Dylan Puhuyaoma
Keili Summey
Giovanni Valenciano

Latoya Venson captured the Black Belt Women's Grand Championship, making it her second World Title. Ms. Venson is a police officer in Chicago, Illinois where she trains with her father, **John Venson**. Her opponents found it very difficult to score, as she was able to block incoming strikes and quickly counter with her own.

Latoya Venson w/ Guy Holtzman

Donnie Michael of Kokomo, Indiana took home Black Belt Weapons Grand Champion honors. This is a familiar scene for him as this is his fifth World Title. He has also held the USKA National Weapons Title. A well-rounded competitor, he also placed 2nd in kata and 3rd in kumite. Mr. Michael is an Alliance Hall of Famer training under the instruction of Hall of Fame President, Eddie Bethea.

Donnie Michael w/ Ann-Marie Heilman

Davis Meiering awed the audience and the kata board when he performed his kata at the Finals and won the Junior Beginning Kata Grand Champion Award. Mr. Meiering is a green belt training under **Lee Kittell**, our Chief Referee from Albuquerque, New Mexico. He also did great in his weapons division, placing 2nd.

As you can tell, this year was an exceptional year for outstanding competition. "World Class" competitors from all over the United States and from various nations around the globe converged on New Orleans for the prestigious event. And what a better

place to hold this prestigious event than a "World Class" hotel! - The Hilton New Orleans Riverside was once again the tournament headquarters, and what a time we had in this great facility.

The directors would like to thank all attendees, volunteers, competitors, spectators, judges, and workers for making this an extra-special World Championships. Congratulations to all World Competitors for bringing such outstanding talent, ability, and sportsmanship to New Orleans, making this truly – a World-Class Event!

Davis Meiering w/ The Directors

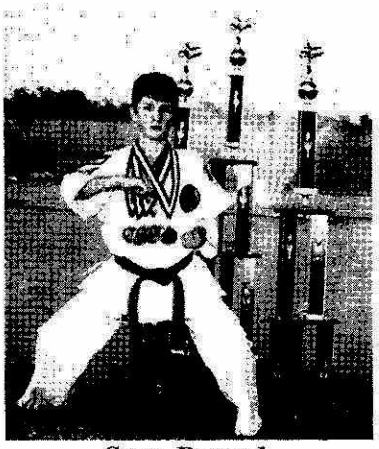
SEAN BREARD WINS 8 WORLD CHAMPION TITLES AT THE 2004 USKA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

By Mr. & Mrs. Mark Breard

"The Big Easy" was the site of a historical achievement for one of our USKA members. **Sean Ross Breard**, a student of Master Juan's Karate in The Colony, Texas, won 8 World Champion titles in the 10-11 Beginning Division in Kata, Kumite, Kobudo, Continuous Sparring, Koshiki, Chanbara, Team Kumite and Team Kata.

Sean appreciated his teammates' help in the team events. In the team events, Sean partnered with fellow students from Master Juan's Karate, **Jenna Brown** and **Dylan Brown** in Kata, and **Jaron Powers** in Kumite along with **Dakota Johnson** from Performance Tae Kwon Do in Shreveport, Louisiana. With his 8 wins, Sean broke the previous USKA record of 6 World Champion titles from one competitor at one tournament. Sean also placed 4th in Musical Forms.

Sean credits and respects his instructors, **Master Juan Galvan, Mr. Adrian Galvan** and **Mr. Alan Foley**: "I learned a lot from Master Juan, Mr. Adrian and Mr. Alan, but I know I have a lot more to learn. Master Juan's instructor, **Grand Master Tom Pisut**, has helped me a ton. Tips from other kids at my Dojo and friends I met at tournaments have been great." Sean had never competed in Continuous Sparring and was not going to compete in this event until Mr. Alan encouraged Sean that he would likely do well, and should give it a try.



Sean Breard
photo courtesy of Teresa Burton

In an interview with *The Dallas Morning News* about Sean's accomplishment, Master Juan spoke of Sean as a "dedicated athlete who practices six days a week, one or two hours a day". One of Sean's instructors, Mr. Adrian, also set a new USKA record at Worlds. At the age of 19, **Adrian** became the youngest Adult Black Belt Man to win the World Championship Grand Champion award in Kumite. **Teresa Davies** of Albuquerque, NM was the youngest of the Women at the age of 19.

Sean, tall for his 11 years, played the center position on his basketball team for 4 years, but wanted to take Karate stating: "I like the idea that it is up to me to do well". Sean began training with Master Juan and his team of instructors in October of 2003, and entered his first tournament 2 weeks later. His parents, **Mark and Dorinda Breard**, encouraged Sean to attend the tournament and "go have fun and see how tournaments work". Sean was elated when he won 1st place in Chanbara and Kumite, and 3rd place in Kata at his first tournament. Since that time, Sean has participated in 12 tournaments, winning 48awards, including National and World Champion awards. Only 7 months into his training, Sean finished the USKA "points year" as the National and Louisiana runner-up in his division for Kumite and Kata, and picked up first in these events in Texas.

Sean understands that to do well, it takes dedication. Although he generally trains at the

dojo six days a week in addition to practicing at home, he takes his academic studies as seriously as his martial arts training, excelling in both. He has been on the Honor Roll since Kindergarten, and is involved in advanced studies.

Sean views his National and World Champion titles as a responsibility to represent his organization, instructors and family in a positive manner. Sean's current focus is on improving his techniques to compete well at the intermediate level, as he was promoted to 6th Keup green belt after returning from Worlds.

Sean also appreciates the loving support he receives from his grandparents. His paternal grandparents, **Sylvester and Lillian Breard**, support Sean by attending as many tournaments as possible with Sean's parents, and were at the World Championships with Sean. Although his maternal grandmother, **Dorothy Brown**, is unable to travel, he has her full support.

UNITED STATES KARATE ALLIANCE 2003/2004 HALL OF FAME INDUCTIONS

By Eddie B. Bethea, Jr.

The United States Karate Alliance takes great pride in its Hall Of Fame and it is a special honor for the men and women who are considered for induction. Many may have no idea of what the Hall Of Fame is or its significance to the Martial Arts World. It is the highest form of recognition for the men and women who have been and are the most spirited fighters to ever wear the Karate-Do Gi. These individuals have given their lives to the martial arts and have been the pacesetters in competition; they are the movers and shakers when it comes to getting things done; they are models for the future of the martial arts; and they are continually developing new martial artists to carry on the legacy that was started long ago in a foreign land called Okinawa.

The United States Karate Alliance Hall Of Fame is unique because you must be voted in by the membership. Currently, there is a vast number of Halls Of Fame popping up around the world just as if you were attending a tournament. You attend and pay an entry fee for induction to wear the title of a Hall Of Fame inductee. There are individuals who are capitalizing on the desire of adults and children to be Hall Of Fame members. There are parents who

will pay any amount to have their child(ren) in a Hall Of Fame to have those boasting rights. This demeans all that a Hall Of Fame and the Martial Arts are about. However; the uniqueness of the United States Karate Alliance Hall Of Fame will forever preserve the meaning of both and will ultimately become the goal of all adults and youths who are competitive in Karate and the Martial Arts.

Our 2003 and 2004 inductees are highly exemplary of all the things that have been previously referenced. In **2003**, **Mr. Greg Holmes** was inducted into the US Karate Alliance Hall Of Fame for his long standing record as a competitor. Mr. Holmes is a 4th Degree Black Belt in Shuri Ryu Karate; a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Okinawa Kenpo Kobudo; and a Brown Belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu. He has accumulated 8 USKA Black Belt World Championships in kata, kobudo, and grappling; 14 National Championships; numerous titles beyond the USKA. Mr. Holmes is a family man with a Bachelors Degree in Finance from Arizona State University. At age 38, he has amassed over twenty years of training, and when he competes you see a culmination of those years at work.

Daniel Jordan

In **2004**, the US Karate Alliance saw the induction of **Daniel Jordan** and **Steve Flores**. Both of these men exemplify those standards that are necessary to be inducted into the Hall Of Fame. Even though they were not inducted when they were initially nominated, they did not give up and became more determined to be inducted.

Daniel Jordan is currently a second year medical student at Des Moines University – College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. Mr. Jordan has either been a World Champion or Runner Up 13 times (includes Professional Karate Commission International Championships); he has won the USKA Nationals or been Runner Up four times; and he has won three National Points Championships while being the Runner Up twice. He has won 25 Grand Championships in Kumite

and 16 Grand Championships in Kata during the period 2001 through 2003 prior to entering medical school. Daniel Jordan is a true US Karate Alliance Hall Of Fame Member who gives his all in everything that he does. This is proven by the fact that he was an "Honor Graduate" from High School and College.

Steve Flores

Steve Flores is a man whose karate training dates back to the life of Grand Master Robert A. Trias. He is a 5th Degree Black Belt in Shotokan Karate and has been training for over 21 years. His association with USKA began with the United States Karate Association when it was under the banner of Grand Master Trias. He was very fortunate in receiving his Shodan promotion from the Grand Master. Although he had already embarked on a quest to become the best, he was even more inspired after that promotion. Mr. Flores had won his first World Championship prior to his Black Belt promotion but he hungered for more. He has amassed hundreds of tournament wins and is very modest in presenting the most recent. He won 2004 National Point Championship in Kata; Runner Up in Kumite and Weapons; and at the 2004 Nationals he was the Champion in Masters Kata; and Runner Up in Kumite and Weapons. Then he came to the 2004 World Championships and won his Kumite and Weapons Divisions and was Runner Up in the Kata Division. Steve Flores is a man on a mission and he will not stop until his mission has been accomplished. He is married with a daughter in college and maintains two schools in the Santa Fe, New Mexico area. He attended New Mexico Highland University and majored in Human Performance and Health.

This is what the United States Karate Alliance Hall Of Fame is and the kind of people who make it in. Many will not be voted in the first, second, or even the third time, but they will all come back because they have focused upon that goal of being the best and receiving the highest possible recognition. This is life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

RETIREMENT FROM FIGHTING AFTER WINNING WORLD GRAND CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THREE DIFFERENT DECADES

By Eddie B. Bethea, Jr.

Eddie B. Bethea, Jr. has been a formidable force on the tournament scene for the past 30 years and has now decided that it is time to eliminate the fighting from his competition. His alliance with the United States Karate Association/United States Karate Alliance began in 1975. Over this span of time he has won ten division World Championships. This is coupled with the fact that he placed in every World Championship Tournament except two since 1981. He is the only person in the country who can boast of winning World Fighting Grand Championships in three different decades. He won his first World Fighting Grand Championship in 1983 which was the year he turned 40; the second in 1993 the year he turned 50; the third in 1991 the year he turned 51; and the fourth in 2003 the year he turned 60. Bethea also won a World Grand Championship in Weapons in 1987.

Eddie Bethea, Jr. w/ Joe Dupaquier

He has won the Grand Championship at the Professional Karate Commisson's International Championships once. He has also won International Championships with the United States Karate-Do Kai. While fighting has been his strongest event, he has faired extremely well with Weapons and Kata performances over the years. Bethea also competed in AAU and won his division in 1981 thru 1985. He did not compete in 1986, but went back and fought USAKF in 1987 and again won his division.

The trophies that he has won are innumerable and they have come in all sizes. However; the trophies mean nothing if there has been no change in the person. That change means growth as a human being, as a leader, as a teacher, and the list could go on and on. Now, the time has come that there will be no more fighting. The passage of time dictates what we must do in our lives and this is a time that he realizes and accepts.

There is a bit of a difference in tournament competition today versus what it was when he began competing. Significantly, competitors don't have to make the sacrifices their predecessors had to make to get to competitions. Today there are tournaments within hundred miles, of where you live, almost every weekend. Everybody seems to always have enough money to just go and compete. Some will go so far as to have sponsors which is a great relief to the financial burden of being a competitor. The thing that is constant is that you still have to line up beside someone in order to compete. Early in my competitive career, I learned to always line up beside the guy I thought would be my most difficult match. I knew that if I could beat him I would be the division champion. That was my way of being competitive. I would suffer the fears and the butterflies, but that was the only way for me to achieve my goals. Now as time has passed me by, I know that it was every competitor, all the fears, and the butterflies that got me to the top of the mountain.

PROMOTION CONGRATULATIONS

Promotion Congratulations to:

Christopher Redlich	7th Kyu Yellow Belt
Jacques Derbes	4th Class Purple Belt
Austin Barton	Purple Belt
Barry Barton	Purple Belt
Tori Summey	Sankyu
Keili Summey	Nikyu
Kim Byrd	Junior Black Belt
Michael Blackburn	Junior Black Belt
Christopher Otwell	1st Degree Black Belt
Jeffery Miller	2nd Dan

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